



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 18, 2009

www.mulberrymethodist.org

The Rock": A Story of Faith

*"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."
-- Hebrews 11:1*

A man was sleeping at night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light, and the Savior appeared. The Lord told the man He had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might. This the man did, day after day.

For many years he toiled from sun up to sun down, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all his might. Each night the man returned to his cabin sore, and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Since the man was showing signs of discouragement, the Adversary decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the man's weary mind: *"You have been pushing against that rock for a long time, and it hasn't budged. Why kill yourself over this? You are never going to move it."* Thus, the man began to think the task was impossible and that he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man.

"Why kill myself over this?" he thought. *"I'll just put in my time, giving just the minimum effort; and that will be good enough."* And that is what he planned to do, until one day he decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to the Lord.

"Lord," he said, *"I have labored long and hard in your service, putting all my strength to do that which you have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"*

The Lord responded compassionately, *"My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But is that really so?"*

"Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back is sinewy and brown, your hands are calloused from constant pressure, and your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. Yet you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient and to push and to exercise your faith and trust in My wisdom. This you have done. I, my friend, will now move the rock."

At times, when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is simple obedience and faith in Him. By all means, exercise the faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God who moves the rock. And all the while, by that same faith, know that God is working in you!

Your servant, in Christ,

Sunday Worship

January 18, 2009

Nine O'clock - Chapel
Eleven O'clock - Sanctuary

"Something Good Out of
Nazareth"
John 1: 43-51

Rev. Tommy Martin

Assisting with Worship

Ushers for Nine O'clock
Warren Dunn & Scott Wangen

Ushers for Eleven O'clock
Jason Anthoine, Charles Bridges,
Austin Carter, Scott Davis,
Ken Harper, Gary Hobby,
David Mann, Bob Middleton,
Mack Minton, Jim Rice,
Blake Sharpton, Chris Uren

Sunday School Greeters
Berg-Brenner Class

Children's Church
Chad & Laura Hancock

Mulberry's Muggers
Russ & Carolyn Barber
Jim & Ann Smith

Altar Flowers



The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mrs. William P. Simmons by Martha and Ken Thompson.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Arthur and Martha Lewis by Tol, Patricia, Andy, and Chris Clarke.

Attendance Last Sunday

Nine O'clock Worship	44
Eleven O'clock Worship	301
Total Worship Attendance	345
Sunday School	282



Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist

Spring Musicals

For Children in Grades 1-5

Sundays beginning January 18
6:00-6:45 in Wesley Choir Room
Performance Wednesday, March 25

For Youth in Grades 6-12

Sundays beginning January 18
4:45-5:45
Performance Wednesday, May 6

Please call or e-mail Cam for more information.

Third Tuesday Organ Interlude

January 27 - 12:00 Noon
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Nelda Chapman, Organist



Cameron Bishop,
Director of Youth Ministry

www.mulberryyouth.com

Upcoming Events:

Winter Jam 2009
January 18

Youth Talent Show
February 11

Winter Retreat
Epworth by the Sea
February 13-15

Moving Times at Outreach!

We're packing up the offices and grocery pantry to begin Phase II of renovations. Please keep us in your prayers (and pardon our progress!) as we enter into this exciting time. Once construction is complete, we will be better equipped to meet the growing needs in our community.

"Near to the Heart of God" Women's Retreat

February 20-22, 2009

**Ebenezer Retreat Center,
Ricon, GA**

The retreat will be led by United Methodist Evangelist, Joyce Payne, and the theme is *Embraced by God's Love*. Registration pamphlets are available in the Atrium.

CHURCH OFFICE will be CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 19

Upper Rooms

January/February issue of the Upper Room is available. Pick up a copy in the Atrium.

Wednesday Night Supper

This Wednesday, January 21, 2009



Menu

Roast Beef
Potatoes a gratin
Italian Green Beans
Squash & Onions
Broccoli & Cheese
Cornbread Patties
Strawberry Shortcake

Program

Nicaragua
Rev. Sam Lamback

Mission Jars

Global Persons in
Mission

American Guild of Organists

presents

"Hymn Festival"

Sunday, February 1, 2009

3:00 p.m.

Mulberry Street UMC Sanctuary

Hear and sing hymns and hymn arrangements for choir, pipe organ, and congregation. There is no charge for this inspiring event!

Methodist Children's Home Auxiliary

It's time to join or renew your membership to the Methodist Children's Home Auxiliary. Make checks payable to "Methodist Children's Home Auxiliary" for \$5.00 for single or \$10.00 for a couple. Drop your check by the church office, put it in the collection plate on Sunday or give it to Wynelle Flynn. Please renew by February 3rd.



Margaret Wrye
January 5, 2009

Marie Davis Pinkerton
January 10, 2009



Pam Johnston, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Parents,

We are currently signing up volunteers for several areas, so call Pam if you or anyone you know is interested in being a part of the Children's Department in the following areas: Sunday School teachers/helpers/substitutes (for the summer, and to start in August in the new school year with Godly Play); parent rotation for ages 2-5 during the church hour; and Children's Council.

S.M.A.C.K. begins this Sunday, January 18 from 5:30 to 7:00. We will be having supper (bring your own sandwich, drinks provided) and then start working on a musical to be presented at the end of March on choir award night. We need kids of all ages so come join the fun!

Hoops for Hearts (Mission Activity)

February 14

Details soon...

Welcome New Members

Patti Ruffin
Children: Chase, William & Ben
1644 Bass Road, Apt. 2028
Macon, GA 31210
960-5088

Jim & Candi Wilson
Daughter: Laura
3145 Vista Circle
Macon, GA 31204
405-2688



The Altar Guild has an opening for flowers in the chapel Sunday, February 8th. Please call Heidi Ream at 474-8618 if you are interested in placing flowers for that Sunday.

Memorials/Honorariums

Music Fund

In memory of Vivian Bridges by

Mr. & Mrs. Waverly Golson Mrs. John Hawkins
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Smalley Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Ethridge, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Jackson Collins McKay, Jr. Trinity Circle
Mrs. Robbie Kirk Mrs. Juanita R. Billingsley
Mrs. Anna F. Collier Mrs. Linda M. Sankey
Mrs. Dorothy W. James Mrs. Carolyn C. Kennedy
Mr. Preston P. Hawkins Mr. Stewart O. Cunningham, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Mack Minton

In honor of Cam & Bruce Bishop by

Mrs. Gloria McAfee Wynn

Memorial Fund

*In memory of Martha Lifsey Garrett and Marth Garrett Wills
by Mr. A. F. George*

In memory of Mary McCrary by

*Mr. & Mrs. Don & Eleanor Rosen
Mrs. Florence Grenade*

Macon Outreach

In honor of Harold & Freeda Chapman by

Mrs. Marjorie Lovein

In honor of Harold Chapman by

Trinity Circle

In honor of Mickey & Carol Pope by

Mr. & Mrs. Nathan & Sarah Pope

In memory of Arthur Curran by Mr. & Mrs. Mack Minton

Christmas Offeriing

In honor of James Berg, Sr. by

Dr. & Mrs. Amos Milledge Anderson, III

Bus Fund

In memory of Vivian Bridges by Mrs. Marie Williams

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
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www.mulberrymethodist.org

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NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED WEEKLY
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Our 11 a.m. service is broadcast live
over Radio Station AM 940 WMAC.

Pastor on Call

January 16-18

Tommy Martin

Home: 474-8735 Cell: 397-4743

E-mail: tmartin@mulberrymethodist.org

E-mail (home): tomflomartin920@aol.com

THIS WEEK AT MULBERRY

Sunday, January 18

9:00 a.m. Worship/Chapel

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

4:45 p.m. Young Spirit Singers

6:00 p.m. UMYF

Monday, January 19

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 20

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study/Conf Rm

7:00 a.m. Men's Sermon Starter Group/Panera Bread

8:30 a.m. Prayer Group/Conf Rm

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting/Conf Rm

12:00 p.m. Kiwanis Club Luncheon/Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Grace Circle

Wednesday, January 21

4:30 p.m. Macon Outreach Exec Com Mtg/Conf Rm

5:00 p.m. Children's Handbells

5:45 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper

6:30 p.m. Adults/Sr. High Handbells

6:30 p.m. Children's Choirs

7:30 p.m. Ainsworth Choir

Thursday, January 22

9:00 a.m. Pew Patrol

10:00 a.m. Chapel for Daycare/Sanctuary

5:30 p.m. Devotional Group/Panera Bread

Saturday, January 24

8:00 a.m. Leadership Planning Retreat/Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 25

9:00 a.m. Worship/Chapel

9:30 a.m. Confirmation Orientation Breakfast/Parlor

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship/Sanctuary

4:45 p.m. Young Spirit Singers

6:00 p.m. UMYF

Mulberry United Methodist Women CALL TO PRAYER - FEBRUARY 16, 2009

"OPEN MY EYES THAT I MAY SEE"

NOON LUNCHEON - Fellowship Hall

(\$3.00, NO RESERVATIONS)

Circle Meeting

The Grace Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20th
at the home of Jackie Harper, 119 Heritage Ct.

MULBERRY STREET UMC STAFF

Tommy Martin, Senior Pastor

Cile Mitchell, Associate Pastor

Bishop C. W. Hancock, Bishop in Residence
Dr. William H. Hurdle, Senior Pastor Emeritus

Bruce Bishop, Church Administrator

Camille Bishop, Music Director/Organist

Cameron Bishop, Director of Youth Ministries

Pam Johnston, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Erin Roberson, Director, Children's Center

Betsy Abbott, Director of Hospitality

Johnny Hathcock, Director, Macon Outreach

Sara Colvin, Financial Secretary

Linda Parker, Administrative Secretary

Doris Andrews, Church Cook/Custodian

Clifton Carswell & Arnold Freeman, Custodians

